

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- 1. (Currently amended)** A food composition for lowering blood concentration of low-molecular-weight nitrogen-containing compounds, which comprises: a foodstuff with comprising
_____ a) more than 5% by weight of water-soluble indigestible polysaccharides relative to at the
total amount of dried the foodstuff, said indigestible polysaccharides capable of being
decomposed by intestinal bacteria, and
_____ b) Bacillus coagulans,
_____ c) said foodstuff having a metal-containing yeast of comprising 0.01% to 5.0% by weight
of a trace metal selected from the group consisting of Mg, Zn, Fe, Cu, Co and Mn relative to the
total amount of the foodstuff, and
_____ d) a protein component of 8% or less by weight relative to the total amount of the
foodstuff, wherein said metal containing yeast comprises a metal selected from the group
consisting of Mg, Zn, Fe, Cu, Co and Mn.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously presented) The food composition for lowering blood concentration of low-molecular-weight nitrogen-containing compounds according to claim 1, wherein said indigestible polysaccharides are selected from the group consisting of pectin, polydextrose, alginic acid, fucoidan, chitin, chitosan, testa-derived hemicellulose, acacia gum, arum root-derived mannan, agar, sugar alcohol and a polymer of sugar alcohol.

4. (Previously presented) The food composition for lowering blood concentration of low-molecular-weight nitrogen-containing compounds according to claim 1, wherein said indigestible polysaccharides contains at least polydextrose and pectin with a ratio of 0.05 to 100 parts by weight of pectin to 100 parts of polydextrose.

5. (Currently amended) The food composition for lowering blood concentration of low-molecular-weight nitrogen-containing compounds according to claim 1 or claim 4, further containing comprising at least one of a trace metal, a vitamin or a fat.

6. (Currently amended) The food composition for lowering blood concentration of low-molecular-weight nitrogen-containing compounds according to claim 3, further ~~containing~~ comprising at least one of a trace metal, a vitamin or a fat.

7. (Previously presented) The food composition for lowering blood concentration of low-molecular-weight nitrogen-containing compounds according to claim 1 or claim 4, which food is formed in a beverage, biscuit, cookie, cake, ice cream, sherbet, bread, noodle or jelly.

8. (Previously presented) The food composition for lowering blood concentration of low-molecular-weight nitrogen-containing compounds according to claim 3, which food is in the form of a beverage, biscuit, cookie, cake, ice cream, sherbet, bread, noodle or jelly.

9. (Previously presented) The food composition for lowering blood concentration of low-molecular-weight nitrogen-containing compounds according to claim 5, which food is in the form of a beverage, biscuit, cookie, cake, ice cream, sherbet, bread, noodle or jelly.

10. (Previously presented) The food composition for lowering blood concentration of low-molecular-weight nitrogen-containing compounds according to claim 6, which food is in the form of a beverage, biscuit, cookie, cake, ice cream, sherbet, bread, noodle or jelly.